Claims:

1. A method for managing a network of nodes, comprising:

receiving information identifying the nodes of the network; and

grouping the nodes into zones as a function of relationships among the nodes, such that each zone satisfies a threshold that is based on an operational capacity of a discovery agent assigned to discover the network.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the nodes are organized in groups and the grouping comprises:

evaluating each group with the threshold that is based on an operational capacity of a discovery agent assigned to discover the network; and

dividing each group exceeding the threshold into new groups.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the groups are subnets, segments of subnets, or subsets of segments.

4. The method of Claim 2, comprising performing the evaluating and dividing until all groups do not exceed the threshold.

5. The method of Claim 4, comprising combining two of the groups to form a single group that does not exceed the threshold.

6. The method of Claim 5, comprising repeating the combining until no further combinations not exceeding the threshold are possible.

7. The method of Claim 5, wherein the two groups are the two smallest groups of all the groups.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the two groups are the smallest groups within a single subnet.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein the two groups have at least one node in common.

10. The method of Claim 7, wherein the two groups have at least one node in common.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein the at least one node in common is a router.

12. A system for managing a network of nodes, comprising:

means for receiving information identifying the nodes of the network, and grouping the nodes into zones as a function of relationships among the nodes, such that each zone satisfies a threshold that is based on an operational capacity of a discovery agent assigned to discover the network; and

means for connecting to the network.

13. The system of Claim 12, wherein the nodes are organized in groups and the means for receiving information and grouping the nodes evaluates each group with the threshold that is based on an operational capacity of a discovery agent assigned to discover the network, and divides each group exceeding the threshold into new groups.

14. The system of Claim 13, wherein the groups are subnets, segments of subnets, or subsets of segments.

15. The system of Claim 13, wherein the means for receiving information and grouping the nodes performs the evaluating and dividing until all groups do not exceed the threshold.

16. The system of Claim 15, wherein the means for receiving information and grouping the nodes combines two of the groups to form a single group that does not exceed the threshold.

17. The system of Claim 16, wherein the means for receiving information and grouping the nodes repeats the combining until no further combinations not exceeding the threshold are possible.

18. The system of Claim 16, wherein the two groups are the two smallest groups of all the groups.

19. The system of Claim 18, wherein the two groups are the smallest groups within a single subnet.

20. The system of Claim 19, wherein the two groups have at least one node in common.

21. The system of Claim 18, wherein the two groups have at least one node in common.

22. The system of Claim 21, wherein the at least one node in common is a router.

23. A machine readable medium comprising a computer program for causing a computing device to perform:

receiving information identifying the nodes of the network; and

grouping the nodes into zones as a function of relationships among the nodes, such that each zone satisfies a threshold that is based on an operational capacity of a discovery agent assigned to discover the network.

24. The machine readable medium of Claim 23, wherein the nodes are organized in groups and the grouping comprises:

evaluating each group with the threshold that is based on an operational capacity of a discovery agent assigned to discover the network; and

dividing each group exceeding the threshold into new groups.

25. The machine readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the groups are subnets, segments of subnets, or subsets of segments.

26. The machine readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the computer program causes the computing device to perform the evaluating and dividing until all groups do not exceed the threshold.

27. The machine readable medium of Claim 26, wherein the computer program causes the computing device to perform combining two of the groups to form a single group that does not exceed the threshold.

28. The machine readable medium of Claim 27, wherein the computer program causes the computing device to repeat the combining until no further combinations not exceeding the threshold are possible.

29. The machine readable medium of Claim 27, wherein the two groups are the two smallest groups of all the groups.

30. The machine readable medium of Claim 29, wherein the two groups are the smallest groups within a single subnet.

31. The machine readable medium of Claim 30, wherein the two groups have at least one node in common.

32. The machine readable medium of Claim 29, wherein the two groups have at least one node in common.

33. The machine readable medium of Claim 32, wherein the at least one node in common is a router.